

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Conventionally, although a technique has been proposed in which image data is compressed and divided so as to be stored in a storing means, no device has been made as to a process which temporarily restores a group of divided and compressed image data and then again compresses and divides the data so as to be stored in the storing means. In contrast, the central processing unit of the present invention is designed so that, when, after the group of the divided and compressed image data, which were divided and temporarily stored in the storing means, have been restored and subjected to the image processing, the resulting data is again compressed and divided so as to be stored in the storing memory, a storing area used by the group of the divided and compressed image data prior to the image processing can also be used, if there are not enough empty areas; thus, it is possible to effectively avoid interruptions to the process due to insufficient empty areas.